

Serial No.: 10/550,735
Atty. Docket No.: P70823US0

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel, amend and add the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An adhesive patch for covering a portion of the anatomical surface of a living being, said patch being able to adhere to the skin, and/or a wound on a part of the body, said patch comprising a backing layer and a layer of a skin-friendly adhesive for adhering to the skin, and the patch further comprising a central first area defined by an outer border and provided with a pattern of curvilinear indentations that includes radial indentations, a second area surrounding the first area and separated therefrom by said first area outer border, and a third area surrounding the second area, said third area bounded by a rim of said patch and an inner border to define a substantially annular area therebetween, said third area covered by a pattern of curvilinear indentations.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Canceled).

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4. (Currently Amended) The patch as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first area includes a central hole encircled by said pattern and a set of indentations encircling the central hole.

5. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 1 wherein the indentations in the third area are in the form of two or more series of curvilinear indentations intersecting with and crossing each other.

6. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 1 wherein the indentations are in the form of grooves having a level bottom.

7. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 1 wherein the curvilinear indentations are defined by a mathematical function of second or higher order or a hyperbolic function.

8. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 1 wherein the third area is provided with radial zones having a thickness comparable with a thickness of the material in the bottom of the indentations in the third area.

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9. (Canceled).

10. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing comprising an adhesive patch having a backing layer and a layer of a skin-friendly adhesive for adhering to the skin, said patch having a central area and an edge area surrounding the central area and extending to a rim of said dressing said central and edge areas being respectively provided with indentations having different patterns, with the indentations in the edge area being in the form of a pattern of curvilinear indentations that extends to said rim.

11. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing as claimed in claim 10 further comprising an intermediate area between said central and edge areas, said intermediate area having a substantially uniform thickness without indentations.

12. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing as claimed in claim 10 wherein said indentations have a depth of at least two-thirds of a total thickness of said dressing.

13. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing as claimed in claim 10 wherein the pattern of indentations in the central area

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includes radial indentations that intersect with a set of indentations that encircle a central point of the dressing to form a cross-hatched pattern.

14. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing as claimed in claim 13 wherein the indentations in the edge area are in the form of two or more series of curvilinear indentations intersecting with and crossing each other.

15. (Currently Amended) The patch as claimed in claim 1 ~~2~~ wherein ~~the pattern of indentations in the first area includes said~~ radial indentations ~~that~~ intersect with a set of indentations that encircle a central point of the patch to form a cross-hatched pattern.

16. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 1 wherein said pattern of curvilinear indentations in said third area is a cross-hatched pattern.

17. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 16 wherein said curvilinear indentations in said cross-hatched pattern form angles with the patch rim that are other than 90° and 180°.

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18. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 17 wherein said curvilinear indentations in said cross-hatched pattern extend to the patch rim.

19. (Currently Amended) The adhesive patch as claimed in claim 10 ~~9~~ wherein the first central area includes a central hole and a set of substantially concentric indentations encircling the central hole.

20. (Currently Amended) The adhesive patch as claimed in claim 19 wherein the first central area further includes a radial indentations that intersect with and cross said concentric indentations.

21. (New) An adhesive patch for covering a portion of the anatomical surface of a living being, said patch being able to adhere to the skin, and/or a wound on a part of the body, said patch comprising a backing layer and a layer of a skin-friendly adhesive for adhering to the skin, and the patch further comprising a central first area defined by an outer border, a second area surrounding the first area and separated therefrom by said first area outer border, and a third area surrounding the second area,

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said third area bounded by a rim of said patch and an inner border to define a substantially annular area therebetween, said third area covered by a pattern of curvilinear indentations that includes two or more series of curvilinear indentations intersecting with and crossing each other.